

714131

MILKSHAKE HILLS

Low hills have developed on mainly slightly altered Precambrian mudstones although extensive belts of dolomite also are present. The system covers broad areas in the north-west quarter of the Region, from around the Arthur River southward to over the Pieman River. The distribution ends at the foot of the Norfolk Range in the west and gives way to Permian and Cambrian terrain in the east.

Despite the poor appearance of the soils, particularly on the crests and areas of dolomite, the

native vegetation is a tall open forest. Stringybark and Smithton peppermint are the principal dominants but myrtle, sassafras, swamp gum and celery-top pine are also prominent.

Forestry is of major importance in this land system but it is becoming increasingly popular for recreational purposes, and large inaccessible areas currently serve as zones of nature conservation.

There is a high erosion risk on the areas of poor, dolomitic soils. Elsewhere the hazard is moderate with the likelihood of slight sheet erosion in the swales.



Virgin, tall mixed forests of eucalypts with rainforest understorey supported by organic soils formed on gravelly dolomite



Stringybark and gum topped stringybark saplings two years after forestry logging and burning operations

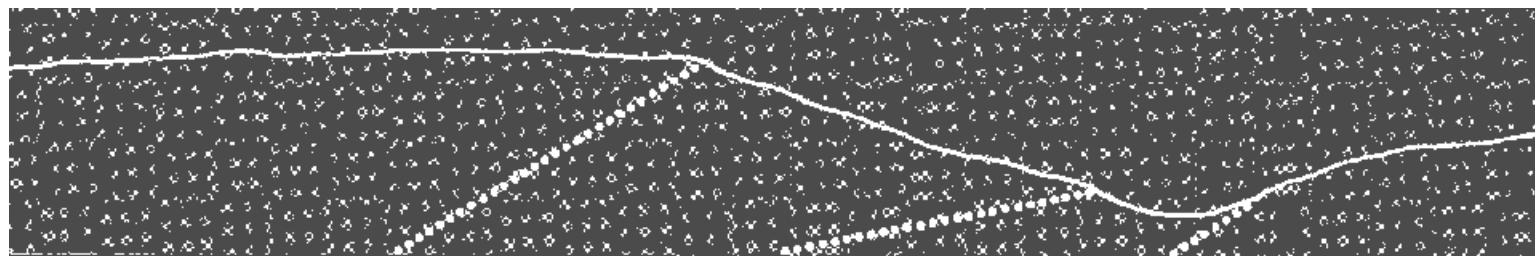


forest dominated by eucalypts at Milkshake Hills Reserve

LAND SYSTEM

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Milkshake Hills



COMPONENT	1	2	3	4
PROPORTION %	45	25	10	20
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 1 500-2 000 mm			
GEOLOGY	Precambrian slaty mudstone			Precambrian dolomite
TOPOGRAPHY	Low hills			
Land form	Low hills			
Position	Crests, upper slopes	Sideslopes	Swales	Extensive areas dolomite
Average Sideslope °	4	12	2	8
NATIVE VEGETATION	Tall open forest			
Structure	Tall open forest			
Association	Stringybark, Smithton peppermint, celery top pine, <i>Melaleuca squar-rosa</i> , <i>Bauera rubioides</i>	Stringybark, myrtle, sassafras, soft tree fern	Smithton peppermint, Stringybark, swamp gum, myrtle, sassafras lancewood, leather-wood, celery-top pine, <i>Bauera rubioides</i> , hard water fern	
SOIL	Gravelly, greyish brown (10 YR 5/2) gradational soil	Brownish yellow (10 YR 6/6) to yellowish brown (10 YR 5/6) gradational soil	Gravelly, mottled light brownish grey (2.5 Y 6/2), brownish yellow (10 YR 6/8) gradational soil	Black to very dark brown (10 YR 3/2) peat, becoming very gravelly with depth
Surface Texture	Peat	Loam	Peat	
Permeability	Moderate			High
Average Depth m	0.4	0.8	1.6	0.5
PRESENT LAND USE	Forestry, recreation			
HAZARDS	Moderate sheet erosion	Moderate gully and sheet erosion	Low sheet erosion	High sheet and rill erosion